

Iraq angry over 'supergun' seizures

BAGHDAD (UPI) — Iraq Monday threatened legal action against Italy, Greece and Turkey for seizing steel components alleged to be part of a "supergun." The measures "taken by the Turkish, Greek and Italian authorities are illegal because the seized materials belong to Iraq and their costs were paid by Iraq," the Iraqi News Agency quoted a spokesman of the Iraqi Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialisation as saying. Turkey and Greece last month confiscated Iraq-bound truckloads of British-made steel pipes they suspected would form part of a gun barrel able to fire chemical or nuclear weapons. On Saturday, Italy impounded 90 tonnes of steel parts, made by Italian firms also thought to be part of a gun. Britain, the first country to make the "supergun" allegations, has also compensated steel users. Baghdad says all the components are for aeronautical projects. Iraq "reserves its rights towards Turkey, Greece, Italy and Britain or any other country which takes illegal measures and... will take all legal measures against these countries," the spokesman said, without giving details. He said Iraq had already filed a lawsuit against British authorities in Britain.

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Ben Ali begins U.S. visit**Bhutto arrives Friday**By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

TUNIS (R) — President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia left for his first official visit to the United States Monday with a mission to argue the Palestinian cause and promote the Arab Maghreb Union of which he is chairman. Ben Ali, who took power in November 1987, saw Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Saturday and Arafat said Ben Ali was the man best qualified to brief U.S. President George Bush on the PLO's view of a Middle East peace. Tunisian emissaries have seen the heads of state of the four other Arab Maghreb Union member states — Algeria, Libya, Mauritania and Morocco — in case they want Ben Ali to bring up their concerns to Washington.

5 wounded in London blast

LONDON (R) — A bomb exploded outside a British army building in south-east London Monday, wounding five people and hurling a car on to its side. The blast badly damaged the entrance to the Institute of Army Education in the suburb of Egham — headquarters for army education services — and blew in many of its windows. About 50 soldiers and civilians — were inside the building at the time of the explosion, the Ministry of Defence said. Commander George Churchill-Coleman, head of the London police anti-terrorist unit, told reporters, "some form of device" had been used, but could not confirm initial reports from emergency services that the bomb was attached to a car. There was "no immediate claim" of responsibility for the blast. But Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas have attacked military bases in mainland Britain and Continental Europe in their campaign to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

Shevardnadze may advance to premier

NEW YORK (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze may be the next prime minister of the Soviet Union. Newsweek magazine reported Sunday. "A veteran Western ambassador predicted privately last week that (Soviet President Mikhail) Gorbachev would soon fire Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov," according to Newsweek. The weekly news magazine reported Gorbachev was said to be on the verge of firing Ryzhkov because of Ryzhkov's inability to resolve the Soviet economic crisis. Shevardnadze is an ethnic Georgian, and thus considered sensitive to the concerns of the restive minorities such as the independence-minded Lithuanians, the magazine said.

Five killed in Madagascar coup

ANTANARIVO (R) — Five people were killed and 20 wounded on the Indian Ocean island of Madagascar in a failed weekend coup attempt during which rebels held the state radio station, hospital sources said Monday. Commandos ended the Sunday coup attempt when they stormed the radio station but government officials said journalists and technicians taken hostage when the rebels seized the building at dawn all escaped unharmed. Police, who had clashed with stone-throwing supporters of the rebels outside the station, arrested 13 people.

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They are

U.S., Iran sign \$105 million accord on financial claims

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The United States and Iran have signed a \$105 million settlement of some 3,000 financial claims stemming from the 1979 Islamic Revolution, a U.S. official here said Monday.

The settlement, which deals primarily with so-called "small claims" for under \$250,000, clears the way for the tribunal to deal with some \$16 billion in major claims whose resolution could open the way to re-establishing economic relations between the two nations, according to the American official here at the Iran-United States claims tribunal.

The small claims package dealt primarily with Americans who left behind personal possessions or were owed salaries by Iranian companies when they fled Iran during the revolution. They were settled for a total of \$50 million.

The settlement also provided \$55 million for repayment of a loan from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The settlement accord was signed late Sunday night or early Monday morning by Timothy Kammish, U.S. agent to the tribunal, and Iranian agent Ali Nohari, according to the American official at the tribunal, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Settlement of the claims package has drawn unaccustomed publicity to the tribunal here because the most recent settlement

ment agreement involving resolution of several other claims and counter-claims with a net payment of \$420,000 to Iran was not signed. There was no indication why.

The second package contained a joint claim that had been filed by Iran for personal property left behind by 107 Iranian naval cadets in training who were expelled by the United States after the 1979 embassy takeover.

Also in that package was an Iranian landlord's claim against the U.S. State Department for rent not paid on an apartment that had been occupied by an embassy hostage.

The biggest claim still before the tribunal, valued at up to \$11 billion by Iran, is for military equipment which Iran ordered but did not receive as a result of the embargo imposed by the U.S. government.

After the overthrow of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi in 1979, Iran cancelled contracts for \$9 billion worth of weaponry, including four destroyers under construction that were later taken over by the U.S. Navy.

Much of the material Iran is claiming compensation for is not under U.S. government control, but with individual contractors who were never paid.

The U.S. government claims it found buyers for much of the equipment already paid for by Iranian government, and deposited the money in Iran's accounts.

talks between U.S. and Iranian officials occurred shortly after the release of American hostages Robert Reed and Robert Polhill in Lebanon.

The two were held by pro-Iranian Shi'ite groups, but both the U.S. and Iranian governments have taken pains to dissociate the tribunal and settlement agreement surrounding it from the hostage issue.

U.S. and Iranian representatives to the tribunal have repeatedly stated it has dealt only with financial arbitration of claims between the two nations since its inception in 1981.

However, last week a U.S. State Department official in Washington, who commented on condition of anonymity, said he could not predict whether resolving the financial disputes will result in the release of remaining hostages or was in any way related to the release of Polhill and Reed.

The tribunal was set up as part of the Algiers Accord of 1980, which resulted in freedom for the American hostages held by Iranian militants at the U.S. embassy in Tehran for 444 days.

A second package in the settle-

Beirut's courts struggle to survive

BEIRUT (AP) — Sometimes judges take pity on prisoners whose incarceration makes them unable to flee Beirut's daily shelling, and let them go on minimum bail. At other times, the shelling does that for them, blowing holes in prison walls that allow the inmates to escape.

During 15 years of civil war, the criminal justice system has tried to keep functioning. But the violence can overwhelm its attempts.

"I switched on the TV one night and saw gunmen sniping from my office at the Palace of Justice," said one judge, who like the rest spoke on condition of anonymity. "We obviously can't meet there."

The intra-Christian fighting that has tormented Beirut for the last 101 days has trapped about 415 prisoners in a "battal" of some of the worst fighting.

The showdown between troops of rebel Gen. Michel Aoun and militiamen of warlord Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces — the worst among Christians in the civil war — has killed almost 1,000 people and wounded more than 2,500 since it erupted on Jan. 30.

A lawyer who fled the fighting in the Christian enclave to predominantly Muslim west Beirut said the judiciary authorities have not been able to meet to consider dozens of cases of detainees who have been booked pending interrogation.

"They were arrested and jailed and now their fate depends on the situation," said the lawyer.

The Palace of Justice where the meetings normally take place lies on the confrontation line separating Geagea's areas of influence from Aoun-held terrain. It is under constant sniper fire and shelling.

"We have been trying to form a committee to meet anywhere in order to take a decision to release the prisoners on bail pending a trial when security conditions permit," the judge said.

The lawyer said some colleagues paid lightening visits to the Palace of Justice to put the files in safe hiding or take them to safer areas," he said. "But it is not possible to operate normally from there."

The judge said the jails lie in the most-targeted areas in Roumieh, Baabda and Fur Al Shubak, all held by Aoun.

Roumieh is the biggest Aoun's main Howitzer batteries are deployed around the prison in the wooded valley which protects them against Geagea's fire.

"The prisons are so crowded and in such dangerous areas that whenever we meet can try to release most of the detainees who have committed minor offenses on bail set at a minimal amount," said the judge.

Few jails have bomb shelters and prisoner control is all but nonexistent during the shelling.

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Police allowed the demonstrators to walk another 700 metres before they placed an armoured personnel carrier across the street to stop the marchers. While organisers pleaded with the crowd to return to the designated area, people continued to push ahead.

Police tanks started appearing from behind the small hills on the sides of the road but that move did not stop the crowds from trying to continue their march.

It was not immediately clear exactly how the clashes between the demonstrators and the anti-riot police started but what seemed like a rain of tear-gas canisters fell among the crowd which immediately retreated to some 50 metres.

People were running back in a frenzy trying to avoid the seemingly endless tear-gas attacks as more and more canisters seemed to fall in their way back.

"I was running back; I wanted to get away but I couldn't. Every two steps another tear-gas canister would fall in front or next to me and I was choking. It did not stop," a

Lahd supports swapping prisoners for hostages

MARIAYOUN, Lebanon (Agencies) — The commander of Israel's proxy force in southern Lebanon says he is ready to swap a "large number" of the 300 prisoners held by his militia for 16 Western hostages held by pro-Iranian Shi'ites.

Gen. Antoine Lahd, commander of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), also included in the trade three Israeli servicemen and several of his men held by Shi'ite factions.

"I'm not only prepared to facilitate such a package deal, but I also hope it could happen," Lahd said Sunday in an interview with the Associated Press at the SLA compound in Marjaoun.

Lahd, 61, a retired Lebanese army officer, commands the 3,000-strong militia that patrols Israel's self-proclaimed security zone in southern Lebanon. It is backed by about 1,000 Israeli troops.

In Israel, a senior government spokesman asked about Lahd's offer, said: "I don't think it depends on Lahd or on us but on the other side."

Asked if there was any sign of movement from the other side, the spokesman said on condition of anonymity, "none that I know of."

The SLA holds the 300 Shi'ites in Kham, a small village in Israel's 10-15 kilometre wide security zone. The border zone was established in 1985 when

Israel ended a three-year occupation and withdrew the bulk of its army from southern Lebanon.

Most of the 16 Western hostages missing in Lebanon are held by pro-Iranian Shi'ite factions reportedly operating under the umbrella of the fundamentalist Hezbollah, or Party of God. The longest-held is Terry Anderson, 42, chief Middle East correspondent for the AP. He was kidnapped on March 16, 1985.

Two American hostages, Robert Polhill and Frank Reed, were released by their pro-Iranian captors last month as a "goodwill gesture."

Since then, there have been contradictory statements from Iran on any further releases. U.S. President George Bush has refused to deal for freedom for the hostages, who include six Americans.

In addition, the Western hostages include Keenan, four Britons, two West Germans, two Swiss and an Italian.

There was no immediate reaction to Lahd's offer from the pro-Iranian factions holding hostages, from Lebanese clergymen or from Iran.

In the past, the kidnappers and their backers have called specifically for the release of Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, a Hezbollah official captured by the Israelis in a raid on his village in southern Lebanon last July 28.

Iranian leaders hoping to im-

prove ties with the West have said all hostages should be freed this year. But radicals argue that holding hostages is a means of confronting the West, which the anti-Western faction considers a cornerstone of the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Bush recently said that if Israel wanted to free any prisoners he would not object. He also offered to help locate the four missing Iranians.

The father of Bilal Dakrour, held for over four years in an Israeli prison, said "the West has dollars to pay off the captors. We, because we are poor, no body cares."

"We have seen and heard how the world was moved, and the West enraged about a few Westerners who were kidnapped in Lebanon," cried one black-clad woman marcher who refused to give her name.

"But unfortunately, we have not seen or heard the least interest in our 3,000 sons held hostage in Zionist prisons," she said.

Aliya, 60, said four of her sons aged between 35 and 13 years were kidnapped by SLA militiamen eight years ago in South Lebanon.



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'Right of Return'

(Continued from page 1)

reporters who walked with the crowd to follow the developments noted.

Several witnesses said small groups among the crowd attempting to walk to the bridge hurled stones at the anti-police standing in their way.

Interior Minister Mass'adeh told the Jordan Times that "groups which adopted different emotional reactions seemed to cause this clash." The minister expressed regret that such an "initially successful march ended this way."

Fifty-two people were hospitalized and released after treatment for effects of tear-gas inhalation, dizziness and sunburns, according to officials.

"Fifty-two people were taken to hospital and were treated for reactions to the use of tear-gas but all of them have left hospital," Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Mass'adeh told the Jordan Times. Anti-riot police also fired gunshots in the air to disperse the over-enthusiastic crowd.

A security source told the Jordan Times that although "official reports have not yet been received by the Public Security Department it seemed that some politically-affiliated groups were trying to incite the crowds."

The source explained that some political groups who participated in the march "had different goals than those of the organisers and they incited the crowds to continue marching."

However, the president of the Jordan doctors' association and orchestrator of the march, Dr. Mamoud Abbadi, said that the violence was "only a very small dark spot on a large white page which is the success of march itself."

In an interview with Jordan Television, Abbadi said that "impulsiveness and enthusiasm drove people to move outside the limits set out in the route map" provided by the Jordanian professional associations. "Since that particular area is mined and in order to safeguard the (participants) lives, police fired tear-gas to disperse the crowd," he said.

Police allowed the demonstrators to walk another 700 metres before they placed an armoured personnel carrier across the street to stop the marchers. While organisers pleaded with the crowd to return to the designated area, people continued to push ahead.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Group protests tear gas sales to Israel

SALTSBURG, Pennsylvania (AP) — State police cited 10 demonstrators for disorderly conduct after they chained themselves to the gates of an Indiana County plant that manufactures tear gas sold to Israel. The demonstrators were protesting at federal laboratories near Saltsburg because the company has resumed selling the gas, which the group claimed is used against Palestinians in the West Bank. Shipments were suspended two years ago after another protest. The protesters cited were among 130 from several states who gathered Saturday for a rally at Conemaugh Dam Park. They are members of STOPP — Stop the Teargassing of Palestinian People, and include Palestinians, Christians and Jews, according to Todd May of Pittsburgh, a group spokesman. In a steady rain, demonstrators formed a circle in the parking lot across from the plant, chanted and waved Palestinian flags. Michael Tanzer of Birmingham, New York, who spoke during the rally, said he visited Israeli hospitals in January and Palestinians there showed him tear gas canisters marked "Saltsburg Pa., USA."

Turkish troops kill 3 rebel Kurds

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey (R) — Turkish troops killed three Kurdish separatist rebels during a clash in the southeastern province of Siirt, officials said Monday. They said members of the banned Marxist Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) had fired on a patrol near the town of Kurtalan Sunday. At least 33 PKK rebels have been killed this month in addition to 21 soldiers or civilians. The rebels lost 48 men in April. The PKK's violent campaign for Kurdish independence has claimed more than 2,000 lives since it began in mid-1984.

Bahrain taxi drivers stage protest

BAHRAN (R) — More than 100 taxi drivers staged a protest in Bahrain Monday against planned new rules to stop them holding two jobs. The drivers say they need a second income to meet the rising cost of living. But an Interior Ministry spokesman said the rules, aimed at helping the unemployed, would probably be introduced in a few months. Officials say Bahrain's unemployment rate could be as high as 10 per cent. About one third of its estimated 473,000 people are expatriates.

Demjanjuk starts appeal

TEL AVIV (R) — Convicted Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk launched a last bid before Israel's supreme court Monday to escape the hangman's noose. Demjanjuk's lawyer Yoram Sheftel presented his appeal to a five-judge panel more than two years after the Ukrainian-born retired car worker, deported from the United States, was sentenced to death following a 15-month trial. Sheftel argued that the special Jerusalem court had not been entitled to try his client for genocide or crimes against humanity since the offences were not included in the U.S.-Israel extradition treaty. "To put it in a nutshell, the appellant was brought to Israel for trial on one offence and one offence only — murder," he said. The defence argues that the burly 70-year-old is not the guard known as "Ivan the terrible" who operated the gas chamber at the Treblinka concentration camp in Nazi-occupied Poland. But Sheftel said if the court accepted his argument on jurisdiction, there would be no need to review the evidence. Demjanjuk denies he was ever at the camp.

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:45	Aqaba (RJ)
11:40	Tripoli (RJ)
12:15	Rome (RJ)
12:45	Tunis (RJ)
13:45	London (RJ)
14:45	Madrid (RJ)
15:45	Rome (RJ)
16:45	London (RJ)
17:45	



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday for the Rehabilitation of the physically handicapped attends a ceremony where Gambian's President's wife (Petra photo) S. Jawara opens an annex at the Al Hussein Society

Rehabilitation centre annex opened

AMMAN (Petra) — An annex for a centre run by the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped was formally opened Monday by the wife of the visiting president of Gambian S. Jawara at a ceremony attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma and other dignitaries.

The visitor inspected the facilities which offer physiotherapy sessions to the handicapped children, special education classes

and vocational training.

At least 255 children have benefited from these services so far according to officials in charge of the centre.

He said the children, who spend two years of training, are normally awarded a diploma which can help them find jobs.

Vocational training covers radio and television repair, sewing, embroidery, shoemaking and the manufacture of artificial limbs.

Society President Princess Madiyah Raad spoke at the ceremony outlining the society's various programmes and future plans.

She said the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) had financed the first part of the complex while the new annex had been financed through contributions from the private sector in Jordan.

Among those present at the ceremony were the ministers of health and social development.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Medal conferred on former ATF official

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has conferred the Independence Medal of the Second Order on Dr. Sadeddin Ibrahim, former secretary-general of the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) in recognition of his services and dedication to his duties. The medal was presented to Dr. Ibrahim by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, chairman of the ATF's board of trustees.

Iraqi official leaves

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraqi Minister of Justice Akram Abdul Qader left Amman Monday after delivering a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to His Majesty King Hussein. The message contained Iraq's official invitation to the King to attend the Arab summit conference due to be held in Baghdad towards the end of May.

Minister meets institute's director

AMMAN (Petra) — Director-general of the Paris-based Arab World Institute Edgard Pisani had a meeting here Monday with Minister of Education Mohammad Hamdan to discuss cooperation between the Ministry of Education and the institute. Hamdan spoke about educational systems in the Kingdom. Pisani said the visit would help cooperation and conveyance of Arab World's culture to Europe.

Jordan, Syria to cooperate in planning

AMMAN (Petra) — A joint Jordanian-Syrian planning committee will open discussions in Damascus Tuesday to examine ways of cooperation in development and planning, as well as expertise and information related to planning. Dr. Safwan Touqan, Ministry of Planning's secretary-general left for Damascus Monday to head the Jordanian side to the meeting.

Tourism aims at self-sufficiency

AMMAN (Petra) — Twenty per cent of the total income to the ancient Nabatean city of Petra will go to the nearby village of Wadi Mousa, and 20 per cent of income from Jerash archaeological city will go to the city of Jerash, according to Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kharabiti. The funds will be used to improve services at the two archaeological sites.

Jordanian children to display art in Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to participate in a Palestine medal competition for children organised by the Iraqi Ministry of Culture in Baghdad in the coming month. Altogether 53 paintings by students government and private schools will be displayed.

Jordanian artists to display in Morocco

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Plastic Artists Association will take part in an art exhibition to be organised in Casablanca towards the end of May. Paintings by 10 prominent Jordanian artists will be displayed at the exhibition.

WHO meeting tackles tetanus

AMMAN (Petra) — The World Health Organisation (WHO) opened a 10-day symposium in Amman Monday to deal with means of combatting tetanus, responsible for infant mortality in the developing nations.

Representatives from Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, North and South Yemen and Jordan, who are taking part in the meetings will review working papers and research documents dealing with tetanus and will exchange expertise in ways of combating this killer disease.

Dr. Mamoun Ma'abreh from the Ministry of Health opened the sessions with an address in which he referred to WHO's target of eliminating tetanus among infants by the end of 1990.

"It is not enough to learn about tetanus or to take individual decisions to deal with it since sound planning and proper employment of resources are required to stem the spread of the disease," Ma'abreh said.

A WHO representative expressed the organisation's concern about the persistence of tetanus in developing countries. He said that recent statistics indicate the mortality rates are declining thanks to immunisation programmes although tetanus ranks second place after measles in infants mortality.

The symposium is being held in cooperation with the Ministry of Health.

Measures are taken to help southern areas

KARAK (J.T.) — Implementation of the first phase of an emergency programme to relieve the southern governorate of Karak hit by drought this year will begin early next month in conformity with directives from Prime Minister Mudar Badran and with a view to finding work for the unemployed citizens, according to Karak governor Ismail Duheiman.

In his announcement, Duheiman said that projects related to roads, water springs, afforestation, farming, dams and cooperative work will be implemented in the first stage.

He said that jobs will be created for the unemployed as a result of the implementation of projects in agriculture, livestock breeding and forest planting.

"To pave the way for the projects, a special committee set up last month and comprising concerned government departments has held several meetings and discussed plans for the districts of Mazar, Qaser, Aiy, Ghor Safi, Mazraa as well as Karak," said Duheiman.

"The committee has already received JD 100,000 to commence its work and that other instalments will be forthcoming in due time," he said.

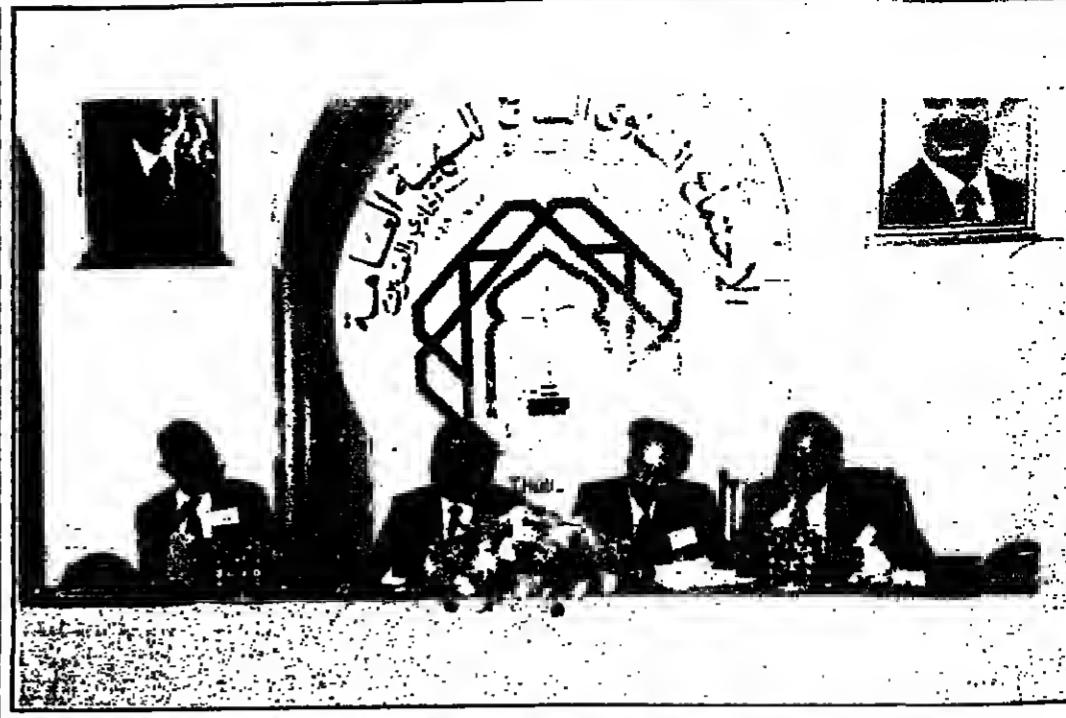
Prime Minister Mudar Badran toured the drought stricken region of the south: Karak, Tafleq and Maan in March this year and announced that nearly \$3 million will be spent on development schemes to assist the local population.

Nearly JD 1.5 million has been contributed to the scheme by the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company and the Arah Potash Company, both of which operate in the south.

The Prime Minister spoke at public rallies during his extensive three-day tour, openly debating matters of concern to the local citizens.

According to Duheiman JD 500,000 had been allocated for income generating projects which will employ job seekers and \$333,000 will come from the Ministry of Agriculture to help develop higher regions.

"The committee has already received JD 100,000 to commence its work and that other instalments will be forthcoming in due time," he said.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday the Arab Thought Forum (Petra photo) attends the final meeting on education organised by

ATF meeting on education stresses need for reform

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day meeting organised here by the Arab Thought Forum ATF to discuss education in Arab countries concluded its sessions Monday by issuing two important documents: the Amman educational declaration and the Amman declaration for education in the Arab World in the 21st century.

The declaration said that between 1970 and 1990 the number of students and teachers in the Arab World tripled and the rate of educated adult people rose from 37 per cent to 50 per cent.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan attended the final session and addressed the delegates about the topics discussed and the importance of their meeting.

He said the conference was part of the ATF's ongoing endeavour to introduce reform to education in the Arab World.

Prince Hassan described the conference as a cultural project and a modest beginning designed to define the objectives of education in the Arab countries in the coming century so that policy makers, economists and authorities in charge of information can chart programmes and plans in accordance with these guidelines.

He said the two documents manifest the ATF's determination to seek an Arab summit that would be dedicated to education in the Arab World.

Prince Hassan's words were echoed in the Amman declaration on education for the Arab World which expressed hope that one of the coming Arab summits would be dedicated solely to dis-

cuss the question of education in Arab states, since education is a major tool in culture and development.

The declaration said that between 1970 and 1990 the number of students and teachers in the Arab World tripled and the rate of educated adult people rose from 37 per cent to 50 per cent.

The declaration also pointed out that despite this fact, efforts had not risen to the aspired levels in quantity and quality for the purpose of achieving universal development.

"At present there are nine million children outside schools and nearly 50 per cent of the adults in the Arab World are still illiterate, together forming about 80 million persons," the declaration said.

The present educational systems in the Arab World still follow outmoded patterns which do not rise to the level of challenges of the modern age; nor do they help Arab students cope

with modern developments," the declaration said.

It said that the new world situation requires open-minded, speedy and favourable response and interaction if further progress for the Arabs is to be attained and if the Arab national heritage is to survive.

The declaration urged the Arab World to develop its educational infrastructure, to give proper attention to informal, self and continued education for the adult people, to work for eradicating illiteracy in the Arab countries, by the end of the present century, to involve the local community in shouldering part of the educational burden.

The declaration underlined the importance of the teacher and the school textbooks in the educational process and urged Arab countries to extend all possible educational assistance to the Palestinian students involved in the uprising against the Israeli rule."

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by five Jordanian artists at Abd Al-Hameed Shoman Foundation (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- Plastic art exhibition by Abid Abu Judeh, Samaa Al Bourini and Hadi Bessam at Yarmouk University.
- Exhibition of original aerial photos by Jane Tailor at hotel Jordan Intercontinental (all photos are for sale in aid of the St. John Ophthalmic Hospital, Jerusalem).
- Book exhibition at Misra University.
- Art exhibition by George Sarkis Kaplanian at the Goethe Institute.
- Art exhibition by Ihsan Al Turk at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition by students of Nazareth Sisters School at the French Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition by Hussain Abu Ekraym at the Alia Art Gallery.

THEATRE

- English play entitled "The Brothel's Family" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.)

LECTURE

- Lecture by Dr. Salmah Yousef (in German) entitled "Cycle: Architecture between tradition and progress" — 7:00 p.m.

FILM

- Film "The New York School" at the American Centre at 6:00 p.m.

PLAY

- An Arabic play "One Thousand and One Night" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.

Medical centre gets dialysis unit

AMMAN (J.T.) — A new dialysis unit was formally inaugurated at the King Hussein Medical Centre Monday by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairman of the friends of the Kidney Patients Society.

The unit, which cost JD 500,000, comprises 20 different computerised machines, considered the most up-to-date of their kind in the world, according to hospital officials.

"The unit will initially provide dialysis services to 120 kidney patients at the rate of twice a week for each," the officials said.

The new unit's operational costs are estimated at JD 500,000 annually and each patient's treatment is estimated at JD 5000 a year.

WHICH IS BETTER? WHICH IS TASTIER?

A seeded or a seedless Watermelon.

NEW IN JORDAN

LOOK FOR THIS STICKER (in red and green)



Ask for seedless Watermelon from your local vegetable market.

Each seedless fruit bears the above sticker

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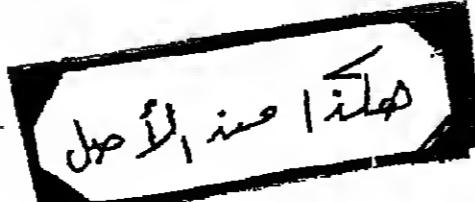
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Magnanimous show of solidarity

THE "Right of Return" March has been a successful event even though it was marred by the unruly behaviour of a relatively small group of participants and subsequently an over-reaction by the security authorities. It is a success for Jordanians and Palestinians and a number of our Arab brothers to organise a popular protest march that reflected the feelings and sentiments of our people in their desire to unite and confront common dangers. It is a pride to see that our people are using democratic means not only to express their feelings, but also to show their anger at the daily Israeli practices to uproot the Palestinians from their homeland and to replace them with immigrants from the Soviet Union and other corners of the world. It is an achievement for the organisers, who through their continuous and sincere work to serve their professions and their country's causes, have been able to draw 25,000 participants to a point so close to our people on the West Bank to show the whole world that we are with them and for them in their heroic struggle for liberation.

True, some of the protesters got over-enthusiastic and hastily rushed to break security and safety rules. But their feelings and emotions and actions could not be misunderstood or mistaken, since their usurped homeland and their hostage brothers and sisters were no farther than a stone's throw from them.

On the other hand, our security people had legitimate and sound considerations to protect the march and the marchers from the obvious dangers that surrounded them. They did over-react a little. But, again, it usually happens when the over-enthusiastic get restrained by the over-protective, especially when it is a first for both.

The incidents that took place close to Jericho, however, dwarf next to what was happening next door in Hebron, where Moshe Levinger was being sentenced for only five months in prison for killing an Arab, and where he was being hoisted on the Israeli settlers' shoulders and called a hero for killing our brother.

Jordanians and Palestinians were too close to the heroes of the intifada not to display their deep emotions and frustrations in an enthusiastic fashion. And our security people were also that close to the enemy to endanger the safety and security of our people and country. A clash took place among our people. But it was not about objectives and principles. But the important thing was that our people stood together, worked together and walked all the way to show their national unity and common goal to show friend and foe alike our true feelings and solidarity to achieve our goals and national aspirations.

The march was a proud manifestation of those feelings, and at that it was a huge success.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Monday focused attention on Baghdad where the Arab summit meeting is to be held towards the end of May. The paper said that the Arab leaders now shoulder serious responsibility towards their people and their nation, and they have to find means of protecting their countries and of safeguarding the Arab masses from a looming disaster. The paper noted that for one thing, Iraq is seriously threatened with aggression from Israel and other hostile forces, while the Palestinians in the occupied Arab lands are facing oppression. Furthermore, the Israelis are posing a new threat on the Arabs by inviting in more immigrants who will eventually help the Jewish state expand in every direction, the paper added. It said that the summit in Baghdad is expected to be something quite different from all previous ones, and a summit for the masses and for defending Arab soil at a crucial moment in Arab history. Millions of Arab masses are now looking to Baghdad and hoping that the Arab leaders will find solutions that can end off dangers posed not only on Iraq and the Palestinians, but rather on the whole Arab Nation, the paper said.

Writing in Al Ra'i Arabic daily, columnist Tareq Masarweh describes the march to the bridge in the Jordan Valley taking place Monday as a symbolic move which is bound to attract many people with hope to return. The writer says: "we all know that a peace march will never regain usurped territory, but it is a mobilisation of morale which is required for later action." The symbolic march is also a show of solidarity with the Palestinian people under Israeli rule, and also a manifestation of determination to regain lost land and a rejection of capitulation to the Israeli enemy, the writer adds. The march is now symbolic, but it is bound to wake up millions of people around the world to the need of action to reinstate justice, he continues. The writer expresses hope that the march will eventually be transformed into a real march of fighters who will embark on real steps for the return journey to the occupied lands.

The march to the bridge Monday which is supported by the professional unions in the Arab World should be viewed as an expression of feelings and a show of solidarity with the Palestinian people, said Al Dustour Arabic daily Monday. The paper said that the young men and women throwing stones on the Israeli troops, and the unionists who are imprisoned by the Israeli authorities all need moral support; and millions of people around the world need to acquaint themselves with the plight of the Arab people, said the paper. The march to the bridge is a voice considered louder than all the Arab countries' condemnations of Israel's actions, and a display of the silent determination of the Arab people to fight for their land, the paper added. As we watch the march and the ongoing intifada, said the paper, one can only hope that all Arabs will take matters more seriously and work out serious and practical plans to liberate their land.

Gazan and the intifada: United and steadfast

By Steve Sherman

ON March 28 the Israeli occupation authorities began what has become an annual event, the sealing off of the Gaza Strip from the outside world in preparation for Land Day on March 30. From the late afternoon Gaza's three exits were closed to outgoing traffic; by the next morning incoming traffic was barred and the strip's outside telephone lines were cut. While army helicopters flew overhead, the strip remained sealed off and under a blanket curfew until the early morning of April 1.

To its 680,000 inhabitants, the Gaza Strip is a prison. Its small area, with only three exits to the outside world, enables the Israeli army to close it off at will. Its 30 military bases, 24 of which have sprung up since the intifada began, house between 6,000 and 8,000 troops at any given time, although reinforcements can easily be brought in. At key locations Gazans are reminded of the presence of their warders by the sight of huge circular sandbanks constructed on elevated spots, with military encampments placed inside. As with so much of Israel's occupation policy, the intention is intimidatory as much as strategic.

Local Palestinians detect slight changes in the army's tactics against the intifada. While the number of Palestinians arrested and injured has remained at about the same level as last year, fatalities have decreased slightly. The Israelis appear keen to avoid widespread casualties, largely because of the bad publicity they cause at home and abroad. Another change is the less frequent use of curfews since the transfer of Yitzhak Rabin to the command of West Bank forces last August. His fondness for this measure left Jaffa, Gaza's largest refugee camp with around 60,000 inhabitants, under 230 hours of curfew in the uprising's first two years. Spot curfews, now fewer in the Gaza Strip and generally only imposed after major incidents, as in Rafah in February, are used much more frequently in the West Bank.

But life in Gaza is not easier. Clashes between Palestinian youths and schoolchildren and the army still occur almost daily throughout the territory, and arrests, mostly of young men, continue in the same numbers.

The occupation more than ever seeks to control and undermine people's daily lives. It harasses and causes hardship in many and various ways. To leave the strip Gazans who work in Israel must carry computerised identity cards from which the authorities can ascertain a wide range of information on individuals. In addition, special permits are required for travel both to the West Bank and abroad. But the issuance of such permits, as well as identity cards, is dependent on payment of taxes; if these are outstanding, permits are not granted. There are even reported instances of an individual being denied travel permission because a relative has

such a debt.

Israel's economic offensive

Gaza's fishing fleet, much curtailed since the occupation began in 1967, has been subjected to even heavier restrictions since the outbreak of the intifada. Having been forcibly grounded for almost the whole of 1989, fishermen are still frequently barred from working at the whim of the military, with boats kept ashore when the catch is likely to be harvested. To make control easier, the Israelis have built special enclosures at the four fishing ports in which boats must be kept.

And the intifada has brought damage to another key component of Gaza's economy, agriculture. Curfews mean that crops are left to rot waiting to be harvested or transported. Citrus exports to Jordan have recently been bit by the Israelis impounding lorries trying to cross the bridge and leaving them until the load begins to rot. A recent ban on vegetable exports to the West Bank also caused heavy losses for Gazan farmers, long subjected to restrictions on planting and land and water use.

But the biggest blow to Gaza's weak economy has been the decline in the number of people working in Israel. The total is down from c. 60,000 before the intifada to c. 40,000, with the number of work days reduced because of strikes and curfews, a reduction much more marked in Gaza than in the West Bank. With Israeli imposed restrictions on virtually every sector of the economy, unemployment is rising. At the same time the universities, and indeed until March 1990 all further education establishments, have been closed throughout the intifada, and scholarships for higher education in Eastern Europe have died out completely (formerly a major source of education opportunities for Palestinians everywhere, not one scholarship in Eastern Europe has been awarded to a student from the occupied territories this year). Overall, UNRWA estimates per capita income to have fallen to about 40 per cent of its pre-intifada level, again a much higher fall than in the West Bank, where incomes have always been generally higher.

As a result consumption has fallen, shops, restaurants and small businesses have closed, the consumerism of the superficial economic boom of the 1970s has died away as people learn to do without luxuries. One striking example is the collapse of the dowry for a bride. Before the intifada a man could be asked to pay as much as JD 7,000 by the family of his prospective bride; now a dowry of JD 1,500 is exceptional. A direct result of this is an increase in marriage, and also of the birth rate. Having been steady at around 4.7 per cent per annum for most of the 1980s, UNRWA believes it is now rising to 6 per

cent.

But the uprising continues

In the face of such adversity the intifada continues unabated. Perhaps the greatest achievement of the occupied territories as a whole over the last two years has been to sustain the uprising as part of normal everyday life. There are on average four or five strike days a month, when almost everything is closed, there is no transport and workers in Israel stay at home. Shop opening hours are well coordinated; most trading ceases at 1 p.m. The boycott of Israeli produce is widely adhered to where there is a non-Israeli alternative, although this is less effective than in the West Bank, where most commodities sold in the shops, with the major exceptions of sugar and salt, are either produced in the occupied territories or imported. In Gaza, local alternatives seldom exist; a striking example is dairy products — the West Bank has virtually eliminated Israeli dairy produce, while in Gaza it still accounts for 80 per cent of consumption.

Partly enforced by the economic downturn, partly self imposed, a sense of austerity pervades the Gaza Strip. Adult recreation outside the home has virtually ceased. The cinemas have closed, sports tournaments and restaurants are fewer and are only open for short periods. Alcohol consumption has declined sharply, as has the use of hashish, put by some at 30 per cent of young men before the intifada, but now virtually eradicated. Yet popular commitment to the intifada, in spite of all the hardships, remains. Determination that there is no going back to the pre-intifada situation is visibly firm.

For in spite of the arrests, injuries and deaths, the structure and organisation of the intifada remain intact. As a schoolteacher from Khan Yunis explained: "Arrests have no effect on the nature and quality of the intifada leadership; it rotates, its base is too rooted in the Palestinian masses, everybody is involved in it. If by chance the Israelis do manage to arrest the right people, and usually they don't know who they are looking for, others readily come along to take their place."

Unity is the key

The key to much of this success is that the resistance remains united, in spite of the Israeli media's portrayal otherwise. Generally, the Unified Leadership, Hamas and Islamic Jihad are coordinating their activities. When 18, 19, 20 March were all declared strike days, by Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the Unified Leadership respectively, people felt three days

of strikes was too much and Hamas willingly withdrew their strike call in the Gaza Strip and Islamic Jihad theirs in the West Bank.

The recent truce between Hamas and Popular Front activists in Khan Yunis, cited by the Israeli press as an example of extremists of right and left uniting against Yasser Arafat's too "moderate" position, in fact illustrates the strength of intifada unity, as it brought to an end an often violent conflict which had seriously obstructed unity or action.

In fact Hamas, the "intifada wing" of the Muslim Brotherhood, has never been as strong as the Israelis like to believe. It has been able, far more easily than the PLO factions, to bring money, mostly of Saudi origin, into the territories, to fund clinics, kindergartens and other facilities. But its support in the Gaza Strip, which is far higher than in the West Bank, stands, according to a number of local observers of varying political backgrounds, at around 10-15 per cent; 25-30 per cent, according to the same sources, support the Popular Front, between 50 and 60 per cent Fateh, Islamic Jihad appears to be a small extremist guerrilla group, quite independent of the Muslim Brotherhood. Although small, it enjoys wide respect among Gazans across the political spectrum, for military efficiency and daring and supposed incorruptibility.

Some of them say that stability is a precondition for any Arab strategy. While this sounds true, it is too vague. Stability requires security, but it also requires a sound economy, and a feeling among people that they are respected and not trampled upon. In short, stability itself can only be achieved when there exists a conscious policy to bring it about. Without being unfair to or placating any Arab regimes, it can be said that they have been relatively successful in some areas, while failing disastrously in others. If one can still think in terms of an integrated Arab World, it must be said that the obsession with stability is meaningless. The real issue is the effect of that stability on society and the lives of citizens.

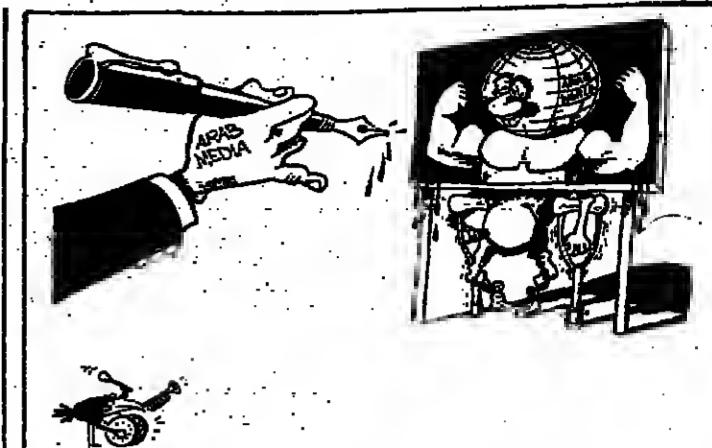
It is amazing, or rather painful, to see how objective barriers block the way of those thinkers devising their reports on "the Arab World in the 1990s" or "the Arab World in the 21st century". Some Arab countries have no concern other than their foreign debt, as though they have solved all their other problems. Others are still obsessed with their national security, if not their very existence and borders.

Perhaps the prevalent characteristic of the Arab World in the 1990s is the collapse of all the values and illusions which shaped it in the previous decades. It has become necessary to come up with new values on which to build a viable strategy. While the theories of the "progressive" Arabs have collapsed without a shadow of doubt, so have the illusions of the "reactionaries". The "progressives" cannot even voice support for perestroika, because support requires commitment, and commitments are piling up in the databanks of the Arab League. But neither can the Arab "reactionaries", who cheered on the downfall of Communism, claim that the repentant Communists are returning to the civilised democratic fold of Arab "reaction". In other words, our progressives were never progressive in the leftist Eastern sense, and our reactionaries were never part of the world of right-wing democracy in the Western sense. Is this a crisis of identity? No, it is a crisis of backwardness.

One sincere advocate of radical Arab political perestroika has come up with a view which may sound comic to the point of being serious. He believes that if the Arabs are to face the 1990s in their current state, they have to accept three things they have always rejected. First, they must accept the Camp David Accords. This is because the policies of the Arab states are so wretched and ineffective, they cannot hope to achieve more than what these accords gave them. Secondly, they must embrace the Sykes-Picot agreement, which divided the Arab World into 21 states. They must not overturn it in their pursuit of unity, because with things as they are, they will end up subdividing the area into twice the number of states and states.

Thirdly, they must cling to the "reactionary regimes" with all their strength. For only the existence of these regimes can protect people from the greed and stupidities of the Americans.

It is only an opinion, which embodies the despair of past, present and future in an era ruled by those who refuse any change except that which perpetuates them. But if anyone opposes this view or considers its proponent sinful, let them cast an alternative at him.



Despair for the 1990s

By Abdul Wahab Badarkhan

The following article translated from the London-based Lebanese daily, Al Hayat, is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.

IT IS NOT true that the Arab World is adrift, left to its fate and the whims of international politics. The search is on, we are told, for an all-encompassing comprehensive Arab strategic plan that will daze everybody.

A strategy for what? It may be unfair even to ask this question, considering the huge volume of studies and research papers churned out by the analysts and paid thinkers. These thinkers have drawn a picture of the Arab World on paper which they cannot help but admire. The rulers too, are so impressed by this magnificent picture that it has transfixed them, leaving them unable to turn it into reality.

Some of them say that stability is a precondition for any Arab strategy. While this sounds true, it is too vague. Stability requires security, but it also requires a sound economy, and a feeling among people that they are respected and not trampled upon. In short, stability itself can only be achieved when there exists a conscious policy to bring it about. Without being unfair to or placating any Arab regimes, it can be said that they have been relatively successful in some areas, while failing disastrously in others. If one can still think in terms of an integrated Arab World, it must be said that the obsession with stability is meaningless. The real issue is the effect of that stability on society and the lives of citizens.

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Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Features

Soviet Jews may be 'desperate' but 'relief' can't be at Arab expense

By Lewis Amidon

This is the second of a three-part report.

AT A RECENT joint Arab-American seminar organised by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF), consensus emerged on the repercussions of Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel. However, the two main working papers reflected a striking gap between the Arab approach and a still influential trend in the American circle which is believed to have considerable impact on Washington.

The two papers were presented to the symposium on American policy in the Middle East, which was attended by a group of prominent Arab intellectuals and politicians and a number of Middle East experts from the University of Harvard.

The first paper, presented by the political advisor to His Majesty King Hussein, Adnan Abu Odeh, on "Emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel and its Implications," was in almost complete contrast with the American paper submitted by Dr. Marshall Goldman, a renowned Harvard Sovietologist, entitled "A New Soviet Foreign and Domestic Policy and its Implications for the Middle East."

While Abu Odeh's paper explored in detail the role of massive Jewish immigration in Israeli strategy and linked it to Israel's current attempts to tighten its hold on the occupied territories, Dr. Goldman almost completely ignored such repercussions and stressed instead exclusively on Soviet Jews' "desperate" conditions.

Dr. Goldman's paper, in its large part, did not seem to match the views expressed by most of his colleagues at the conference, but appeared to substantiate Israel's claims that it is in urgent need of Soviet Jewish immigrants.

After reviewing the phases of the rise and decline of anti-Semitism in Tsarist Russia and the Soviet Union, Dr. Goldman concluded that the changes in the Soviet Union had given way to the emergence of extreme nationalist and anti-Semitic movements which necessitates the exodus of Soviet Jews to escape an impending danger.

Stressing the emergence and role of Pamyat (the memory), a Russian extreme right-wing group, Dr. Goldman claimed that Jews in the Soviet Union were threatened with possible pogroms and massacres. "Against this background of panic, Soviet Jews are seeking as never before to leave the Soviet Union," he contended.

Throughout his paper, Dr. Goldman tried repeatedly to justify Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. Ironically, he seemed to imply that despite the international Western and Jewish campaign to pressure Moscow to allow Jews to leave prior to the perestroika

era Jews had sought to leave in the mid-seventies mainly to seek "economic and political freedoms and family reunification."

"Now it is a feeling of panic and fear of physical harm," he said in what appeared to contradict one of the strongest arguments used in the past which associated communism with anti-Semitism.

Dr. Goldman, however, did not hesitate to suggest that the Arabs might be supporting and financing right-wing organisations such as Pamyat. This accusation provoked a strong written rebuttal by Dr. Asaad Abdul Rahman, a political scientist and member of the Palestine Coordinating Council.

"There is a contradiction in this statement. If Arabs supported and funded Pamyat that means that they are actually instigating Soviet Jews to emigrate," he pointed out.

Dr. Goldman drew parallels between the present status of the Jews in the Soviet Union and those in pre-Nazi Germany by insisting that they were being blamed for the "political and economic collapse" there.

In his paper Abu Odeh also drew parallels between the current conditions and those which prevailed after World War II. But while Dr. Goldman stressed the need for the Jews to leave the Soviet Union, Abu Odeh warned against a new Palestinian exodus and Israeli annexation of the West Bank and Gaza.

"The Arabs could see that the relentless efforts to create Israel would soon come to a climax... it is clear to the Arabs that they are witnessing the final stages of Israel's scheme to make its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip irreversible," Abu Odeh said.

Abu Odeh, who said the concept of Jewish immigration had a high priority in the Zionist ideology and Israeli strategy, also argued that "the coincidence of two factors—a danger threatening Jews in their country of origin and their inability to go elsewhere" had triggered waves of Jewish immigration to Israel throughout history.

At a later stage, Abu Odeh, who apparently avoided portraying "coincidence of the two factors" as "a conspiracy," nevertheless cited a number of reasons which make Soviet Jewish immigration an essential part of the Israeli strategy.

In his view, Soviet Jewish immigration helps solve at least four problems for Israel:

— To substantiate claims that the territories are needed to absorb the immigrants, an argument "which would find a ready audience in Israel."

— The wave of immigrants would diffuse the demographic bomb.

— The all-too-important American Jewish community would overcome its misgivings and unite in supporting any Israeli policy that is presented within the framework of absorbing the immigrants.

Israel to open universities

(Continued from page 1)

Bank villages.

Mitza told the court that troops had beaten Palestinians brutally and broken their bones in several other West Bank villages and towns but these instances had not been publicised.

He called the cases "deviations" and said there were many of them.

The radio said Mitza was questioned by the defence about the existence of special army units.

PLO confident of summit

"I am confident that in the end Syria will participate in the summit in one way or the other," Khalaf said in the interview. He said that even if Syrian President Hafez Al Assad did not go to Baghdad, there would be a senior representative attending the planned summit on his behalf.

"This summit will discuss fate-fu issues," said Khalaf. "Under no circumstances should Syria isolate itself, and by the same token it is not permissible that anyone should isolate Syria."

Khalaf was equally confident that the Syrian-backed Lebanese government of President Elias Hrawi would also be present in Baghdad whether or not Syria participated.

It said that they were not under his command. He said however that these units were bound by military orders and limitations.

Mitza did not identify the special units thought to have been responsible for beating or killing an unspecified number of Palestinians.

Local and foreign press have reported the activities of undercover army units who were disguised and had killed Palestinians.

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Democracy, pluralism can counter growth of fundamentalism, says Arab lawyers' chief

By Nermene Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Fanaticism and fundamentalism in the Arab World could only be countered through advancing democracy and allowing political and social pluralism which would in turn accommodate the national characteristics of the different Arab states, according to the general secretary of the Arab Lawyers Union.

Farouk Abu Eissa maintains that the continued Arab disunity has created special national characteristics in each and every one of the Arab states, which cannot be united under the umbrella of one ideology even if it is Islam.

Dr. Goldman, who conceded that until 1990 only seven per cent of all Soviet Jews leaving the Soviet Union went to Israel, completely detached the new wave from within the context of Israeli settlement strategy. He argued that most immigrants had no desire to settle in the occupied territories.

"Those arriving today are fleeing from terror and have no desire to put themselves on the West Bank proper. They will settle for Tel Aviv and not for Kiryat Arba," he wrote, implying that there was no danger from the new arrivals settling in Israel proper.

"The statement that Israel does not encourage immigrants to settle in the occupied territories is an obfuscation," Abu Odeh countered in his paper citing a host of financial incentives that the Israeli government provides for immigrants to move to the occupied territories.

Another striking contrast between the two papers was that while Abu Odeh concluded that the new wave of immigrants, coupled with Israeli policies to evict Palestinians from their homeland, threatens to undermine the peace process, Dr. Goldman stood out in the symposium by arguing that it might revive peace efforts.

"Ironically, the new wave of Soviet immigrants could stimulate the peace process," Dr. Goldman wrote.

It is the view of immigrants are more likely to vote for Likud, thus "causing the negotiators in the Arab World to seek a speedier resolution of the conflict before the new immigrants come to increase the political standing of the conservatives."

Unfortunately, Dr. Goldman was not able to come to Jordan to take part in the conference and elaborate on his conclusions. However, throughout his paper he did not allude to the Arab or PLO negotiations or the Israeli government's rejection of American peace proposals.

The implied message in his conclusion was that he expected the Arabs to make more concessions, an argument which contradicted most of the views expressed in the seminar.

Abu Odeh called for an international declaration committing the Security Council or its five permanent members to work for a peace settlement based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and affirming the Palestinian right to self-determination and the right of all nations in the region to live in peace.

A senior Jordanian official, who asked not to be identified, said the incidents of the past 24 hours "indicated that there are some groups that are trying, in an irresponsible manner, to capitalise on the atmosphere of freedom brought about by the democratic transition."

his theory.

"If Jordan was to hold new elections today what will emerge is a more liberal and reasonable Lower House of Parliament," Abu Eissa said.

He argued that the Jordanian government, after realising how the "undemocratic" elections law allowed for the emergence of an Islamist majority, "would work on writing a more democratic law which would allow for the correct representation and plurality of ideologies."

"The results would indicate a 70 to 80 per cent change from the present structure," Abu Eissa maintained.

What resulted in the shift to fundamentalism in the Arab World, according to Abu Eissa, is the lack of democracy.

According to Abu Eissa, while the door was open for

religious practice, civil liberties and rights "were denied to the progressives and liberals which in turn allowed for this shift to fundamentalist thinking" as the only means to avoid the "predicament of citizenship" in the Arab World.

He expressed his belief that this lack of democracy and its repercussions had helped "spread the Arab predicament and diseases which can only go away through the application of democracy."

He cited Sudan as an example of the situation in the Arab World. "We have Africans, Muslims and Christians," he noted and said he would admit that the "democratic practice in Sudan after the April 1985 intifada was negative."

"What took place at that time was responsible for

hurting democracy," he said. But he rejected that coups d'état were the answer to the malpractices of democratic application. "What should have happened is more democracy... allowing for more pluralism and different views."

Sudan, which, Abu Eissa said, enjoyed greater differing cultures and different dialects and unequal social division, should have had a political rule that reflected these differences.

"Sudan is a mini-example of the Arab World at large. One cannot solve its problems by submerging the differences that lay within it even if it was through a comprehensive ideology such as Islam," Abu Eissa said.

He called on all the progressive ideologists in the Arab World to "form one eye; an eye

to watch the fundamentalist spread and coordinate against it."

Abu Eissa highlighted the need to recognise the necessity to allow political pluralism and respect different opinions among the different Arab states as a "prelude to the much needed Arab unity."

He also underlined the need for an immediate Syrian-Iraqi reconciliation to allow for the proper utilisation of "Arab resources and abilities."

He praised Jordan's democratic shifts and the government's decision to allow the "right of return" march to take place. "Why is this the first time that Arab professional associations' representatives were able to meet? Because there is democracy here and we can say our mind."

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Saudis go downstream in bid to tame oil market

By Rawhi Abeidoh
Reuter

NICOSIA — Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, is seeking more refining and marketing outlets for its crudes to try to protect itself from a wildly speculative market.

Buoyed by the success of Star Enterprise, a joint project with the U.S. giant Texaco, Saudi Oil minister Hisham Nazer said Sunday the kingdom planned to enter into similar projects in the United States and other countries.

But Saudi Arabia, a traditional exporter of crudes and lacking expertise in the lucrative Western markets, appears to be against taking risks by buying oil projects.

"We are receiving many, many offers from oil companies, including major ones to buy," a Saudi oil official told Reuters in a telephone interview from Riyadh Monday.

"But we are more interested in joint ventures because it is better to join people who know the market and have expertise."

"And we are not going to enter any project unless it is economically sound and provides good

capital return."

Saudi officials say the main reason for going downstream into refining, marketing and distribution is to protect its oil industry, the backbone of the economy, from damaging price swings.

Saudi Arabia, which owns nearly one-fifth of the world's proven reserves, will soon start a multi-billion dollar programme to increase production capacity by over 40 per cent to around 10 million barrels per day (bpd).

"Oil policymakers... are aware of the importance of building a solid Saudi petroleum industry based on commercial bases and not prone to fluctuations in the oil market," the Saudi press Agency said Sunday in a commentary on Nazer's tour.

Nazer last week visited Star Enterprise's refineries in Texas, Louisiana and Delaware, which posted revenues totalling \$6.3 billion in its first year of operation.

Formed in January 1989 with assets of about \$2.5 billion Star has access to some 600,000 barrels

per day (bpd) of Saudi crudes. It sells them as refined products in some 12,000 service stations in 28 eastern and southeastern states.

This constitutes about 50 per cent of total Saudi sales to the United States, by far the world's biggest consumer.

The official said Saudi Arabia was also interested in markets in Western Europe, Southeast Asia and Japan.

OPEC differences over pricing and production policies have often played havoc with an increasingly speculative oil market that saw prices swinging between \$16 and 24 a barrel since last December. In 1986, a destructive price war brought prices down to below \$10.

Saudi Arabia, OPEC's principal member, has repeatedly advocated moderate prices to maintain a recent surge in demand.

Nazer is said to favour what an aide described as a "reciprocal security," with Saudi Arabia ensuring secure supplies to consumers in return for being allowed access to their oil markets.

Oil companies are also urged to enter into upstream operations — exploration and production — to increase output capacity and meet rising demand.

"More integration means more stability," the official said. "Both sides will be looking at both ends of the industry."



Bush aide attacks Democrats on budget summit

By David Lawsky
Reuter

WASHINGTON — President George Bush's chief of staff, John Sununu, sparked new controversy on Sunday by blaming Democrats for making it necessary for Bush to call a budget summit.

Sununu said on U.S. television

that the critical event in Bush's decision to call for the budget

summit on Tuesday was the lack

of enthusiasm the House of Repre-

sentatives had shown for its

Democratic leadership's spending

blueprint.

Bush White House budget director Richard Darman said on another television programme that the summit was necessary because interest rates had not dropped as the administration had hoped and the savings and loan bailout "threatens simply to explode in terms of its effect on the deficit."

Democrats have expressed concern that the budget summit is a political trap to give the Republicans a chance to attack them in the fall elections.

Sununu did nothing to discourage such speculation.

"One of the things that I think ought to be clear is that the congressional failure — the failure of the leadership in Congress to be able to move the budget process forward — is an awfully good reason to elect Republicans," he said.

The prominent Rio daily O Globo reported last week that firms had managed to "unfreeze" almost \$50 billion, mostly by paying off debts and taxes as rules allowed.

Jean Daniel Peter, the president of the Brazilian subsidiary of Union Carbide, told the paper the company used all of its \$18 million caught in the bank freeze.

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Jean Daniel Peter, the president of the Brazilian subsidiary of Union Carbide, told the paper the company used all of its \$18 million caught in the bank freeze.

Others resorted to illegal methods. Blocked funds could be donated to charities, and some companies made deals whereby they made large contributions but received part of the money back.

The money injected into the economy by such methods is believed in part responsible for the rise in inflation.

Darman said the savings and loan bailout could add an extra \$50 billion to the deficit problem.

The new round of speculation seemed tied in part to the

public's diminished faith in the economic programme.

A survey released last week by the Brazilian Association of Credit and Savings Companies said \$4 million has been pulled from savings deposits. That would represent 36 per cent of all money in accounts not blocked by the freeze.

Another sign of the public's lack of confidence is a recent boom in sales of residential safes. Brazil's biggest safe manufacturer, the Bernardini Company, said home safe sales were almost double levels prior to March.

"Whatever the true figure, the cost of living is creeping back up again," said Camargo.

Also troubling observers was the return of financial speculation, which forced the government to sell gold last week to keep down the price of the metal.

And the dollar already has recovered its early March value of 80 cruzeiros.

The dollar on the illegal but widely tolerated black market had fallen by more than 50 per cent after Collor announced the austerity plan, which made cruzeiros scarce.

Last week, federal police raided the offices of black market operators in Sao Paulo to try to slow the dollar's rise.

"Those sorts of actions are effective for only a few days. The government will have to find better ways to end speculation," said David Fleischer, a political science professor at the University of Brasilia.

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Kuwait cuts spot sales of crude oil

NICOSIA (R) — Kuwait has stopped spot sales of crude oil and made arrangements to supply its refineries in Europe from elsewhere to comply with an OPEC pact, Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah was quoted as saying on Monday.

Most customers of Saudi Arabia have reached an agreement with the kingdom for voluntary cuts in nominated liftings in May around 10-15 per cent, like Shell which is said to have agreed a 10 per cent cut, and in some cases up to 30 per cent.

"We have stopped all spot sales, and we have also halted supplies of Kuwaiti crude to our refineries abroad, having instructed KPI (Kuwait Petroleum International) to make alternative arrangements for crude supplies for its European refineries," the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) quoted Sheikh Ali as saying in an interview on May 10.

"These and other measures are likely to get us very near to our quota," he added.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) had agreed earlier this month to reduce total production by six per cent for May and June from around 23.5 million produced in April to help oil market prices recover.

OPEC's output ceiling in the first half of 1990 is 22.086 million bpd.

Oil prices in spot markets had declined around 25 per cent in the first four months of this year due to unchecked output by the 13-member group, especially by three big Gulf producers, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

At the Geneva meeting, Kuwait had pledged to cut its output to its 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) quota level during the May-July period from an estimated 1.9 million in April.

It said Iranian crude prices were around 65 cents per barrel below Saudi prices.

The Nicosia-based oil industry newsletter said oil market prices recovered around one dollar per barrel in the week following OPEC's meeting in Geneva due to actual and impending output

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

		Monday, May 14, 1990	
		Central Bank, official rates	
		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar		667.0	671.0
Paased Sterling		1118.9	1125.6
Deutschmark		405.1	407.5
Swiss franc		475.0	477.9
French franc		120.0	120.7
Japanese yen (for 100)		434.3	436.9
Dutch guilder		360.3	362.5
Swedish krona		111.1	111.8
Italian lire (for 100)		55.0	55.3
Belgian franc (for 10)		195.9	197.1

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.6830/40	U.S. dollar	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1765/75	1.6418/25	Deutschmarks
		1.8450/60	Dutch guilders
		33.95/34.00	Swiss francs
		5.5330/80	Belgian francs
		1207/1203	French francs
		153.33/43	Italian lire
		6.0040/90	Japanese yen
		6.3935/85	Swedish crowns
		6.2620/70	Norwegian crowns
One ounce of gold	368.35/368.75	Denmark crowns	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

TOKYO — Tokyo stocks ended higher, maintaining the gains of a more than 40-point early morning surge in benchmark Nikkei average. The Nikkei Index closed up 530.51 at 32,042.65.

SYDNEY — Australia's sharemarket posted its largest single-day rise in two years to break through the 1500.0 level. The All Ordinaries Index was up 32.6 points at 1517.2.

HONG KONG — Stocks were firm on Friday's New York gains on an appearance of China's Premier Deng Xiaoping, quashing rumours he had died. The Hang Seng was up 15.98 at 2,976.44.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed slightly firmer in active trading as a lack of follow-through buying and profit-taking trimmed early gains. The Straits Times Industrial Index ended 3.90 up at 1,526.07.

BOMBAY — Share prices drifted lower in nervous trading after newspaper reports of troop mobilisation along the India-Pakistan border sparked fears of war. The Bombay Stock Exchange Index fell 13.67 to 774.75.

FRANKFURT — Local election losses for the Christian Democratic Union party soured the mood on the stock market. The DAX Index fell 14.70 to close at 1,866.33.

ZURICH — Shares closed easier but above the day's lows after recovering earlier losses which were due to profit-taking. The SPI index closed 4.5 lower at 1,125.6.

PARIS — Share prices ended softer but off lows helped by selective bargain-hunting. The CAC-40 index closed 1.71 down at 2,090.14.

LONDON — Shares extended an impressive rally in late trading as the market drew further strength from sharp gains on Wall Street. At 1515 GMT the FTSE index was up 37.9 at 2,213.8.

NEW YORK — Follow-through enthusiasm from Friday's soaring rally and light futures-related buy programmes pushed blue chips above their record closing high. The Dow was up 21 at 2823.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1990
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This will be a good day to spend tracking what ever ideas are of major importance to you that require adjustments in order to make them work for you and those of different backgrounds.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Get a point to sit down and talk out at most convenient moment with loved ones just when you are jointly headed and how best to obtain your joint wishes.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Making a more detailed plan of action to gain the various results which activate you can certainly today bring you the very best of results.

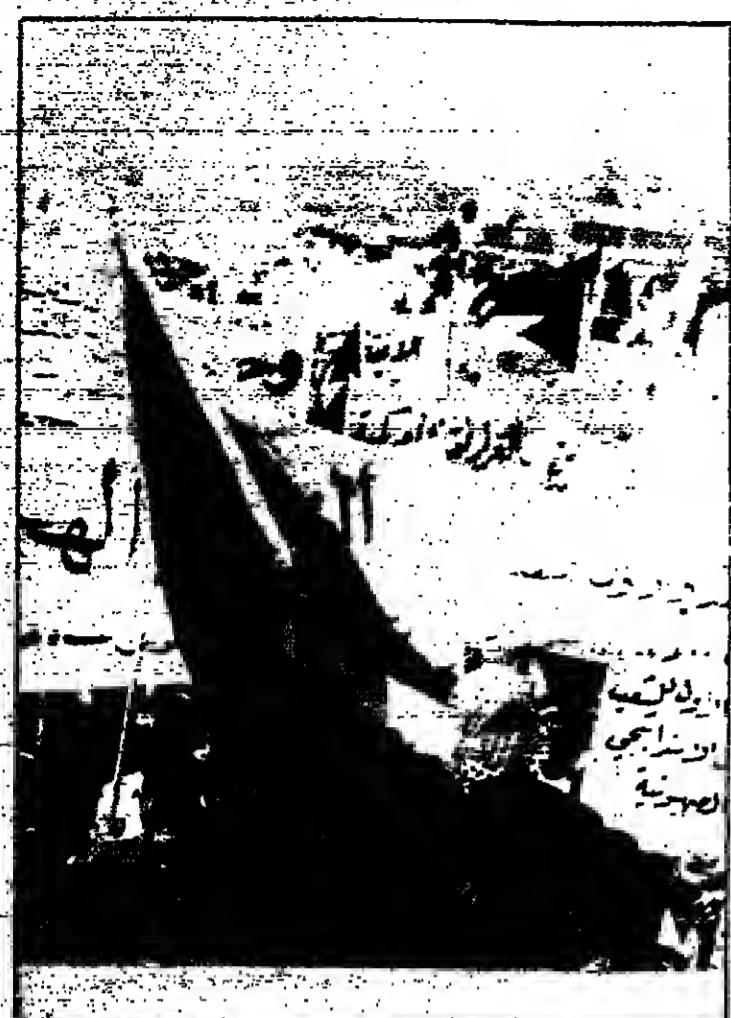
SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) There are phases of your outside duties that you need more expertise in order to get the utmost productivity from your occupation.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) There is a new undertaking that has considerable potential success for you but it is essential you are more aware of every aspect of it.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Forget that sociability that means so much to you today and concentrate upon the material and practical ways you can be more effective.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Watch what

The reaffirmation of an inalienable right...



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engine has
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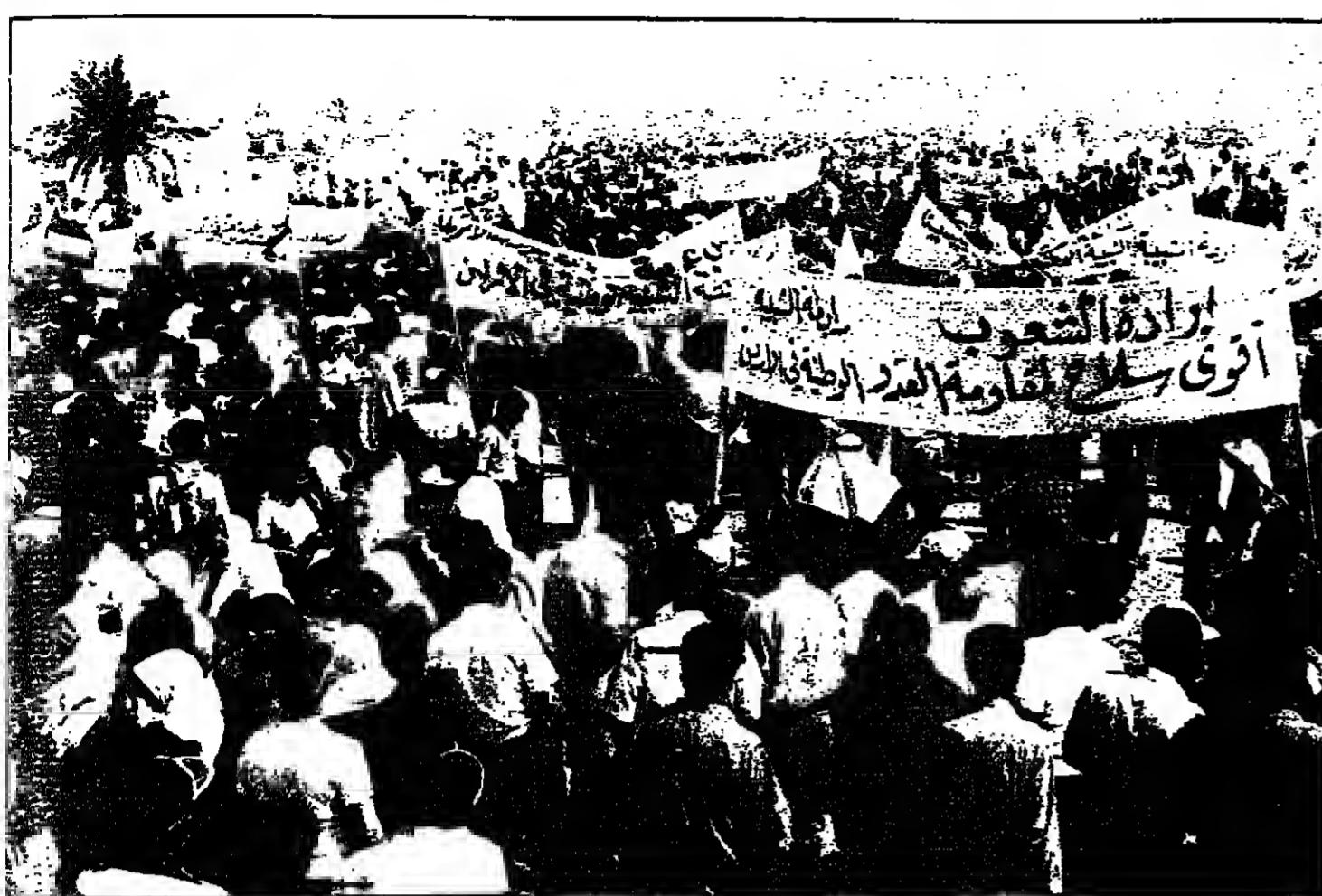
WOMEN

L. Becker

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

53 - CDS
54 - PRO
55 - AIRPORT
56 - STAR
57 - NOVEMBER
58 - CONVENTION
59 - MEETINGS
60 - MEETINGS
61 - CONVENTION
62 - MEETINGS

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The establishment of an

Photos By Youssef Al Allan



Houseproud wins French 1000 Guineas

PARIS (R) — Houseproud, the warm favourite, ran out an impressive winner of the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches (French 1,000 Guineas) horse racing classic at Longchamps Sunday.

It was a first victory in the race for both her trainer Andre Fabre and owner Prince Khalid Abdallah, whose returned jockey, Pat Eddery, had the ride.

Second, a respectful two length away, was Voult Avez, partnered by Alain Lequeux, with the English filly, Gharam, ridden by Michael Roberts, a further half length back.

Cydatin, bidding to give trainer Francois Boulin a quick classic double after the French 2,000 Guineas success a week ago of stable Companion Lioamix, finished fourth.

Houseproud had chased home the English 1,000 Guineas winner, Salsabil, in the prior Marcel Boussac over this course and distance last October and the pair look to be the outstanding fillies in Europe this year.

But unlike Salsabil, Fabre intends to keep his heroine to one-mile (1.6-km) races. Her immediate target is the Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot in June, a race Fabre won last year with Golden Opinion.

Alcala of Mexico

wins Tour de Trump

BOSTON (AP) — When he was a boy in Mexico, Raul Alcala played soccer. But there was too much fighting and he never won anything.

Sixteen years after exchanging his cleats for a bicycle, Alcala ended 11 days of consistent and fight-free riding by winning the Tour de Trump bicycle race Sunday by 43 seconds over Norway's Ade Kvavoll.

"There aren't many professional riders in Mexico," Alcala said. "My victory will be on the front page, the first column."

"I came into the race only to train," said Alcala. "But I won the prologue, so I knew there was a chance to win."

Alcala, 26, of Monterrey, Mexico, won the prologue on the first day of the journey through six states on May 3. He finished 15th Sunday in a large pack of riders that included Kvavoll and the rest of his closest chasers. Kvavoll placed 35th Sunday.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & YAHYA NURSH
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Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦ A J 9 5 3 2
♦ A 5 2
♦ A 7 3
♦ A 6

WEST
♦ Q 7 6
♦ Q 9 8 6
♦ Q 10 8 5 3
♦ Q 10 8 5 3
♦ A 7

SOUTH
♦ A 19
♦ Q 9 7
♦ Q 10 5
♦ A 10 5

♦ A 9 4 2

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

2 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

Before committing yourself to a plan of action, count your tricks! This hand from a team match shows how important that can be.

At both tables, North-South reached three no trump on identical auctions. North's two-spade rebid in this sequence suggested a six-card suit, so there was no reason for him to correct in your spades.

At both tables the lead was the queen of diamonds taken by the king. Both declarers led a club from dummy at trick two and both fours followed with the seven. At one ta-

ble, South's jack won and the continuation of the king lost to the ace. East reverted to a diamond, declarer tried the ten and West took the jack and closed the suit. When the ten of clubs failed to drop, declarer ended up with only eight tricks.

At the other table, declarer opted to take stock. With five fast tricks by needed only four from clubs for his contract. Since West could not profitably continue to attack diamonds, declarer found a line of play that guaranteed his contract as long as clubs were on worst.

As he moves briskly toward his red hatchback, the teenagers duck the flimsy barriers. A few metres from the clubhouse, he is surrounded.

With 20 goals in 48 international matches, Butragueno is one of the national squad's experienced players and a key to its success in Italy, where its first-round opponents are Uruguay, Belgium and South Korea.

Butragueno, nicknamed El Buitre (vulture), is a dogged competitor capable of dazzling moves that seem divinely inspired — and are highly inspirational to his fans.

Those of us who were the youngsters then are now the veterans. This team is much younger but we hope to have a good cup," Butragueno said. "Last time we had some 30-year-olds. This time I'm a veteran at 26. Suarez has really bet on youth."

Suarez has also bet on Spain's top clubs. Five of the players on his likely roster come from Real Madrid and another four play with another perennial powerhouse, F.C. Barcelona, which beat Real to take this season's Spanish cup.

Michel, with 43 international appearances, has been setting up Butragueno with sharp passes since 1984, on both Real Madrid



A Winston Toyota Celica GT4 in full flight

Jordan Rally to test Middle East champions

AMMAN (J.T.) — The stage is set for a battle of wits and endurance when the FISA Middle East Championship resumes this weekend, with the Jordan International Rally providing a new twist to the series.

Lying in wait for the region's top drivers in this year's second round is a route stretching out for 1,055-km, and containing 24 special stages testing their ability on asphalt, gravel and dirt.

In previous years, the Jordan Rally has been held over three days. Cancelled last year, the event returns in a new two-day format which adds to its reputation as the most demanding in the championship.

Driving his Winston Toyota Celica GT4, reigning Middle East champion Mohammad Ben Sulayem will set off first from Amman on Thursday morning well-prepared for a fight to the finish on Friday night.

He expects a particularly strong challenge from fellow UAE driver Suhail Khalifa and Oman's Tony Georgiou, while Jordanians, Qataris, Kuwaitis and even a four-car team from the Soviet Union will be hoping to surprise the top three.

The route includes six brand new special stages, one of them sweeping across the lowest exposed spot on earth close to the shores of the Dead Sea.

Sulayem, partnered by Irish navigator Ronan Morgan, leads

Khalifa, who has made his name by dominating the UAE's grueling Masafi 4WD Rally, is determined to make his mark on the FISA championship this season. Both he and Georgiou will drive Mitsubishi Galant VR-4s.

Jordan's main hopes rest with national champion Issa Halaby who takes the wheel of a Ford Escort RS Cosworth loaned to him by H.M. King Hussein. The car has been driven competitively by Prince Abdullah, whose duties prevent him from taking part.

Without his customary Audi Quattro on this occasion, Lebano-n's ever-optimistic Michel Salch has entered a Range Rover.

Heading the Qatari challenge will be Nasser Al Attiya in a Toyota Celica GT, while Kuwait's Ali Al Baitama has yet to confirm which car he will drive.

The route includes six brand new special stages, one of them sweeping across the lowest exposed spot on earth close to the shores of the Dead Sea.

Sulayem, partnered by Irish navigator Ronan Morgan, leads

the championship after his victory in Qatari in February. He won the last two Jordan Rallies and also claimed victory in 1984, but knows he faces a testing time in his Winston Toyota.

"It's going to be very tough," he says. "There are a lot of twists and turns and the rally will be very tiring."

Thursday morning's first three stages will be followed by a four-hour rest halt, before six more stages take the cars back out from Amman to Ibbin and then to service in Jerash.

Less than an hour later, after a regrouping, the day's last two stages take the rally back towards Amman, with the first cars returning to the capital just before midnight. At 7:30 the next morning the survivors set off on a loop to Petra and back, with a second regrouping following the morning's six stages. The first car will return to Amman at 7:30 p.m.

Clerk of the course Derek Ledger said: "As only Group A and Group N cars can score points in the championship, they will go off first. The Group B and Group S cars will be running 30 minutes behind, so we've actually got two rallies in one."

Butragueno is key to Spanish success

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Madrid's practice has been over for hours and nearly all the soccer stars have gone home. But the kids patiently ringing the clubhouse parking lot are staying put until they see their hero.

Inside, Emilio Butragueno prepares for the daily walk to his car. Luckily for Spain's World Cup team, the 26-year-old striker slips defenders better than he does fans.

As he moves briskly toward his red hatchback, the teenagers duck the flimsy barriers. A few metres from the clubhouse, he is surrounded.

Normally a left winger, he is fast and has a nasty shot. He moves to the centre and takes over for Michel when the latter has trouble finding his rhythm.

He was 21 caps, but has yet to score in an international match.

Real Madrid's two other contributions are Manuel Sanchez and Miguel "Chendo" Porlan, who anchor the defence along with Athletic de Bilbao's Genar Andrinua and Manuel Jimenez of

Chendo and Zubizarreta, at 28, are the oldest players on the team. Zubizarreta is a sure-handed, no-frills goalie, who has allowed 41 goals in his 48 international appearances.

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Photo by the JORDAN DAIRY for technical structuring of competing cars

Aguilera beats Becker, wins \$1m German Open

HAMBURG, West Germany (AP) — Unseeded Juan Aguilera of Spain, who knocked out three seeded players to get to the final, beat no. 1 seed Boris Becker in straight sets Sunday to win the \$1 million German Open.

Aguilera, now ranked 26th in the world, countered.

If Becker came to the net

Aguilera passed him. If Becker stayed back he was outrallied by the Spaniard who controlled the pace with accurate slices.

Many of the rallies included 20

shots or more with Becker ending them with an error.

When the players returned

from the rain delay Aguilera

served out for a 6-0 second set.

The one hour rain delay,

however, helped Becker regroup.

"I talked with my coach (Bob

Brett) and I was able to change

my game when we started again,"

Becker said. "Even though I lost

it was a good sign for me that I

could change when I needed to.

But it was so frustrating because I

wanted to win so badly."

But Becker held serve at the

start of the third set and received

a loud cheer from the sellout

at the Rothcobaum tennis club.

Most fans were wrapped in

overcoats to protect them from

the cold blustery conditions.

The West German then broke Aguilera's serve for the first time to lead 2-0. Becker lost his serve twice, but broke back to force a tiebreaker as errors crept into Aguilera's game.

Becker twice lost his serve in the tiebreaker, once on a double fault, to trail 3-3. He evened the score at 5-5 but floated a forehand over the baseline to give Aguilera a mate point.

But Aguilera lost a 22-stroke rally when a backhand went wide,

and Becker took a 7-6 lead, sealing a backhand volley winner.

However Becker couldn't convert the match point and one point later gave Aguilera the match, hitting a backhand over the baseline to end a 43-stroke rally.

The victory was Aguilera's first major title since winning the German Open six years ago, and adds to other victories this year to smaller tournaments in Bari, Italy, Aix-E-Provence and Nice, France.

Marseille celebrates second French title

PARIS (R) — The Mediterranean port of Marseille indulged in a weekend of wild celebrations to mark their soccer club's second successive French league title, and sixth overall, following Saturday's 1-0 win over Caen.

For veteran midfielder Jean Tigana, 35 next month, winning a championship medal with Marseille was extra special.

Tigana, who played alongside Michel Platini in the French national team, won three championships with Bordeaux before moving back to Marseille, the city where he spent his childhood.

"I was lucky I was never injured but if things carry on like this, I'll have to play until I'm 40," he said. "Realistically, I ought to hang up my boots after next season."

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BATMAN

Performance: 3:30, 6:1

Kohl's party defeated in 2 state elections Parties in West Germany squabble over unity fears

BONN (R) — West German politicians squabbled over the price of German unity Monday after Chancellor Helmut Kohl's party lost two state polls to Social Democrats (SPD) urging a slower pace of unification.

All five parties in the Bonn parliament also held Monday morning strategy sessions to debate what the SPD's clear win in Lower Saxony and its reelection in North Rhine-Westphalia meant for their approach to the coming East-West merger.

Volker Ruest, general secretary of Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU), bluntly called the SPD "the ones who tried to stoke up people's fears" and warned the party not to misuse its new majority in the upper house of Bonn's parliament.

Gerhard Schroeder, the victorious SPD leader in Lower Saxony, rejected this as "absolute nonsense" and said the vote proved West Germans felt Kohl's unity drive was too fast, too expensive and too tough on pensioners and low-income families.

The elections in the two states, which share 40 per cent of the national electorate, were the first important polls since the Berlin Wall opened last November and

the unity-minded East German CDU chalked up big victories in East Germany.

The strong SPD vote in Lower Saxony reflected growing voter concern over the speed and cost of Kohl's unity plans — and prompted him to hint he might have to push towards it even faster to ensure the ideal does not slip away.

"In Lower Saxony we had a painful defeat," Kohl said Sunday evening. "It had several reasons... one is the uncertainty — what will German unity cost?"

But he said delays could add to the cost: "the clock is ticking. We'd be well advised to pick a timeframe that will let us bring into the barn as much German unity as we can harvest."

Kohl was due to fly to East Berlin later Monday to meet his fellow CDU leader and East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere.

Party officials said the two would not discuss the state treaty

on monetary union that aides worked out over the weekend but would focus on East-West cooperation in coming months.

It was not clear whether this would include a date for early all-German elections, which Kohl's Free Democratic (FDP) coalition partners want to hold on Jan. 13 rather than late 1991, the date the more cautious chancellor had set.

The final count in Lower Saxony gave the SPD 44.2 per cent of the vote, the FDP six and the Greens 5.7. The FDP was until now junior partner with the CDU, which scored 42 per cent.

In North Rhine-Westphalia, the popular SPD Premier Jochen Rau won 50 per cent, the CDU 36.7, the FDP 5.8 and the Greens five per cent.

The SPD victory in Lower Saxony gave the party a majority in the Bundesrat, the upper house of Bonn's parliament, and the means to block legislation including laws to finance unity.

SPD Manager Anke Fuchs said Monday her party would not bold up the two states' merger but would use its Bundesrat majority to ensure voters' concerns and social justice were also considered along the way.

Crowds mob premier outside Bucharest

IASI, Romania (AP) — Few Romanians knew who Petre Roman was before the December revolution. Now tens of thousands mob him like a rock star on his swings around the country campaigning for the May 20 elections.

Thousands of people protest daily in Bucharest and some other cities, accusing the governing National Salvation Front (NSF) of planning to install a new Communist government. The front took over when dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was overthrown and executed.

In the town and countryside, the government and its leaders are much more popular.

At Birlad, 260 kilometres northeast of Bucharest, the crowd of 20,000 pressed so close that Roman allowed his driver to speed away. His spokesman was spreadeagled on the back of the vehicle, desperately clutching the antenna. After the campaign tour last week, the 43-year-old premier predicted the front would win Romania's first free elections in 50 years.

He, Interim President Ion Iliescu and many other front members are former officials of the Ceausescu government who fell out with the dictator. Roman said in an interview that critics were "partly justified" in suspecting them of being "neo-Communists."

"We lived 50 years under dictatorship, so the suspicion for some of them may be sincere," the premier said in an interview aboard his campaign plane.

Opposition claims that the front seeks to restore Marxist government should not be taken seriously, he said.

"If you assume that the 4 million members of the party were really Communists, you are wrong," Roman said of Communist Party membership under Ceausescu. "Many even at the middle level were in reality fighting to preserve human rights, at risk to themselves."

International attention has focused on mass protest against the front and Roman's government that began on April 22 in downtown Bucharest, and on opposition accusations that the front is using unfair tactics in the campaign.

The United States recalled its ambassador for consultations on May 10.

At times, 10,000 people have been involved in the Bucharest protest. Similar demonstrations have been reported in Brasov, Romania's second-largest city, and Timisoara, where the uprising against Ceausescu began.

Roman, a professor of hydraulic engineering before the revolution, said he expects the front to win a majority in the new parliament and Iliescu to be chosen as president.

Tens of thousands of people have attended campaign rallies for the two men outside Bucharest, chanting slogans for the front.

Calm returns to Madagascar capital

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — The capital of Madagascar was reported calm Monday after a failed coup attempt that sparked a rampage by youths who set vehicles on fire and broke some windows.

Soldiers overpowered dissidents who seized the national radio station Sunday and the government later announced that 13 rebels, including two women, were arrested.

"It is quite calm in streets today," a U.S. embassy official said Monday in a telephone interview from Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar. "It seems it's all over."

The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

Soldiers launched teargas canisters into the radio station and exchanged fire with the dissidents, who were reportedly armed with automatic rifles, pistols, and knives.

The rebels seized the station at 6:30 a.m. (0330 GMT) and announced that President Didier Ratsiraka's government had been overthrown. They were overpowered six hours later.

Hospitals reported that at least three people died and 15 were wounded in the fighting.

Jean-Claude Rabaga, the minister for information, said in a statement Sunday night the dissidents "were being interrogated and would appear in court."

The rebels claimed to be members of a previously unknown group called the Republican Committee of Public Safety.

There were no reports of disturbances elsewhere in the island nation of 10 million people.

It was the second seizure of the state-run Radio Madagascar station in two years by opponents of Ratsiraka.

On July 14, 1989, six armed men took over the national radio and claimed the government had been toppled. However, the government retook the station and there was no violence elsewhere.

The rebels' announcement Sunday called on the populace to rise against the government and demand that retired Gen. Jean Rakotobiarison, an opposition figure, be named the new president.

The rebel broadcast was cut after 45 minutes.

Witnesses said Rakotobiarison joined a crowd of some 5,000 milling outside the radio station and declined the rebel offer.

Gangs of youths later set two cars ablaze and hurled rocks through the windows at the Justice Ministry and the American Cultural Centre, breaking a display window, a U.S. embassy official said.

Ratsiraka has led Madagascar since he was installed by the military in June 1975. The country gained independence from France in 1960.

Ratsiraka was elected to seven-year presidential terms in 1975, 1982, and 1989. The opposition charged fraud and demanded that Ratsiraka step down after he won 63 per cent of the votes in last March's election.

Two of the attacks came in the capital of Bogota — in Quirigua and the upper-middle-class neighbourhood of Niza — and the third in the southern city of Cali. Two people died in Niza and 10 were killed in the Cali attack.

On Sunday, scores of police officers stood guard in Quirigua against looters as hundreds of onlookers stood behind ropes police used to cordon off the bomb scene.

Martha Lucia Sanchez, a 19-year-old student and neighbour of Benavides, said the bomb exploded when the streets were full of people shopping for Mother's Day.

"The terrorists did not just want to cause damage to property," she said. "They wanted to kill as many of the innocent as they could. They were very determined."

Benavides' 26-year-old son, Jose Luis, said he was standing by the front window of his family's home when the bomb exploded, shattering the glass.

On Sunday, the son was still dazed and wore a blood-stained bandage around his head.

Jose Luis said he didn't want to stay in a damaged house without windows, but had no choice.

"If we don't stay here we will be robbed," he said.

His wife, Carmen Rosa, cried as she told how the family was planning to celebrate its 18th anniversary of living in the house at the end of May.

Colombia's main opposition presidential candidate Sunday said it was unfair that innocent

U.S., Philippines begin talks on bases; rebels kill 2 Americans

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Washington's chief negotiator on the future of American military bases in the Philippines said Monday the killing of two U.S. airmen was a "brutal and clumsy attempt" to drive a wedge between the two countries.

The United States and the Philippines began talks Monday on the future of U.S. military bases

Sunday's killings.

"This brutal and clumsy attempt to drive a wedge between the United States and the Philippines will fail," Armitage said.

"Today, we fight to develop the nation democratically and economically, and at the same time have to contend with the lawlessness and banditry of the New People's Army. And you have our support."

The New People's Army, in a statement to news organisations, denounced the bases, and called on the Filipino people to unite against the installations.

"Go home immediately or suffer the agony of attrition," the statement said. "The NPA pledges that all its territorial and unit commands, all officers and men, will carry out their mission to the last man if necessary, of expelling U.S. imperialism out of our country."

About 3,000 militant workers gathered in a Manila city square as speakers denounced the bases.

"Americans must be driven

away," Crispin Beltran, chairman of the May First Movement, a labour federation, told the crowd. "And those who refuse must be buried here."

About 500 police had been stationed at the Central Bank building Monday in anticipation of protests. Police broke up a picket by about 30 leftists near the site and two protesters were arrested.

During his opening statement, Armitage said the bases serve to guarantee stability in the Far East, but that the United States would leave if Filipinos wanted the installations closed.

"If we ask you to leave, leave we shall, as expeditiously as possible and with our pride fully intact," Armitage said. "If we do not truly believe that there exists a compelling mutual interest between the Philippines and the United States, then we have precious little to discuss other than the terms of an amicable separation."

Pope wraps up 47th foreign tour

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao (AP) — Pope John Paul II, wrapping up his 47th foreign trip, told residents of this Dutch Caribbean island to set a Christian example to the thousands of tourists who visit every year.

The Pontiff stopped in Curacao, about 50 kilometres north of Venezuela, Sunday on his way back to Rome after an eight-day, 10-city tour of Mexico.

Celebrating mass in a sports stadium, Pope John Paul struck familiar themes, speaking out against divorce, cohabitation and

abortion.

He also warned against materialism, saying: "The person, the family and the society will not be fully human if they limit their aspirations just to possessing, consuming and enjoying."

Curacao, an island of 147,000 inhabitants with a thriving tourist industry, is the most populous of the five islands of the Netherland Antilles and has one of the highest standards of living in the Caribbean.

Several Latin American clerics, including Cardinal Miguel Oban-

do Y Bravo of Nicaragua, travelled to Curacao to celebrate mass with the Pope.

The stadium, with a capacity of 20,000, was about half full. Behind the altar was a yellow backdrop representing the gabled colonial buildings of downtown Willemstad.

The Pope received a warm welcome at the airport in the overwhelmingly Catholic island. A group of schoolgirls in white blouses and blue skirts sang Calypso music and shook pom-poms of yellow and white, the Vatican's colours.

Bomb attack angers Colombians of working class neighbourhood

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — The rubble from a car-bombing has been cleared from a working-class neighbourhood, leaving behind grief and anger among residents, some of whom blame drug traffickers and the United States for the violence plaguing their

bourhood of Niza — and the third in the southern city of Cali. Two people died in Niza and 10 were killed in the Cali attack.

On Sunday, scores of police officers stood guard in Quirigua against looters as hundreds of onlookers stood behind ropes police used to cordon off the bomb scene.

Stunned residents of Quirigua could not understand why their neighbourhood had suddenly become a target.

"It's an evil group of people who would attack poor people for no reason," said Luis Benavides, a glass worker whose small two-storey house was severely damaged by the bomb.

"How can we try to understand such madness? Whoever they are, they are attacking our families and our children in the middle of the street," said Benavides, who shares the house with several of his 11 children and 12 grandchildren.

Authorities blamed drug traffickers for the attacks, which accounted for the highest death toll this year for a single day of carnage in the nation's drug war, police said.

Two of the attacks came in the capital of Bogota — in Quirigua and the upper-middle-class neighbourhood of Niza — and the third in the southern city of Cali. Two people died in Niza and 10 were killed in the Cali attack.

On Sunday, the son was still dazed and wore a blood-stained bandage around his head.

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"If we don't stay here we will be robbed," he said.

His wife, Carmen Rosa, cried as she told how the family was planning to celebrate its 18th anniversary of living in the house at the end of May.

Colombia's main opposition presidential candidate Sunday said it was unfair that innocent

Colombians were killed in the war on drugs and the entire world should be held responsible for the drug problem.

Rodrigo Lloreda and Alvaro Gomez, both centre-right candidates in May 27 presidential elections, said Colombians were paying too high a price for mistaken drug policies both here and in industrialised countries.

"We are suffering the consequences of a war in which we Colombians are providing the dead and consuming countries are providing applause and resolutions of sympathy," Lloreda said in a statement.

He added that the Colombian government should have acted on an earlier offer by drug traffickers to lay down their arms and quit legal guarantees.

"We lost an opportunity that would have saved many, many lives," Lloreda said.

Barco rejected the drug lords' January truce offer, saying his government would not negotiate with criminals.

Both candidates said the war on drugs must be an international, not just a Colombian, effort.

"The idea that our country should keep paying the costs of a war that can't be won is intolerable," Gomez said.

Cesar Gaviria, ruling Liberal Party candidate and favourite to win the elections, has said he would continue the current government's anti-drug crackdown.

Street clashes between foreigners and East German gangs broke out in Lichtenberg a week ago.

One Romanian at the army base, a 36-year-old man who said he drove a taxi on Constanza, said he left behind three young children. He said he has no plans to return.

Kretschmer said he believes the motives are more economic than political.

Some Romanians at the barracks said they fled because they believed a new crackdown on travel would be imposed after May 21, when Iliescu is widely expected to win Romanian elections.

The Romanians and Bulgarians fill two large bunkhouses at the base. Wcspans were cleared out of large store rooms to create more space, said Kretschmer.

Most came here on tourist visas, and some said they still planned to go home.

Maria Calderau, 48, said through an interpreter she brought her six children so they could get better medical attention.

Jahne said the government should discuss visa requirements with other East European countries as a way of limiting the flow.

"We don't want to build a new wall," he said.

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